

## **REGULATIONS GOVERNING VEHICLE PARKING IN PARKING AREAS**

### **SERVING THE WESTPORT (SAUGATUCK) AND GREENS FARMS RAILROAD STATIONS**

(These regulations were established by the Board of Selectmen and the Traffic Authority of the Town of Westport at a public hearing held on Monday, July 17, 1972 at 8:00 P.M. in the Town courtroom pursuant to Chapter 3, Section 6 of the Charter of the Town of Westport, and amended on February 24, 1987; January 16, 1991; May 18, 1994; December 13, 1995; March 13, 2002; April 28, 2004; and April 27, 2011.

1. All vehicles except those parking in \$5.00 a-day parking areas at the Westport (Saugatuck) or Greens Farms Railroad Stations shall display a valid Railroad Parking permit on the lower right corner of the windshield. When available, permits may be purchased during business hours at the Records Room in the Police Department, or by mail.
2. Said permits shall be available on the following basis:
  - (a) Vehicle permits allowing parking in all parking lots, \$325.00 plus any applicable tax.
  - (b) Motorcycle permits allowing parking in designated areas, \$325.00 plus any applicable tax.
  - (c) Transients, daily parking in designated areas \$5.00 per day plus any applicable tax.
  - (d) The fees for a railroad parking permit shall be based on a twelve (12) month period. For purposes of providing refunds or for new permits issued during the course of the permit year, the partial value of a permit will be pro-rated based on the annual fee divided by 12. Refunds will be based on the monthly value of a permit times the number of full months remaining until the expiration date. New permits will be based on the monthly value of the permit times the number of months remaining until the expiration date of the permit, including the month of issue, calculated from the time the permit application is mailed or offered. Applicable tax shall be added to all fees. There will be no refund of any part of the applicable tax.
  - (e) Permit holders that must use a substitute vehicle for an emergency may place in plain view a hand written note with the railroad permit number and registration number of the replaced vehicle. If the replacement is to exceed ten days, the Railroad Parking Division must be notified and a temporary permit requested. After ten days the replacement vehicle will be considered a non-permit vehicle if a temporary permit is not displayed.
  - (f) Seniors (age 62 and older) will be allowed to park free in \$5.00 a-day parking areas up to twice a month upon presentation of proper identification.
  - (g) Any permit vehicle that is parked in a \$5.00 a-day designated area shall receive a fee envelope and will be required to pay the \$5.00 fee and any applicable tax.

(h) The Director of Railroad Parking may create a special time zone not to exceed 20 spaces. This zone is for the use of the non-permit holding elderly and occasional day users. The fee for these spaces will be the same as the other daily parking spaces. The zone shall be clearly marked and will subject the violators to a \$50.00 fine.

3. Westport applicants for said permit shall present both an automobile tax receipt and a valid automobile registration for the vehicle for which the permit is requested. Non-residents must present a copy of the valid registration. A vehicle registered out of state, upon which automobile tax has been paid to Westport, shall present both an automobile tax receipt and a valid automobile registration.

(a) Of the permit vehicle is registered in a name other than that appearing on the application, you must also provide proof of spousal connection or other proof of authorized use of the vehicle.

4. Railroad parking permits shall not be issued or renewed to any Westport resident who is delinquent in payment of real estate tax, automobile tax, personal property tax, sewer and use tax, or alarm fees. No permit shall be issued or renewed to any applicant who is delinquent in payment of police parking violations, or railroad parking fees, until such time as all are paid.

5. Said permits shall be nontransferable. Any vehicle which is parked in the above described parking areas shall be subject to the Town of Westport parking fines when a vehicle does not have a valid permit displayed, the permit is determined to be misused, or the vehicle has been parked improperly.

6. Evidence of fraud in obtaining a permit will void that permit. If there is a waiting list at the time a permit is revoked, the person holding the permit will be placed on the waiting list as of the date of the expiration of the revocation.

7. An additional penalty of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) will be imposed for all delinquent transient area railroad parking fees not paid within (14) days of the date of issue.

8. Whenever there is found any motor vehicle parked in a railroad parking lot which has received five (5) or more parking citations or railroad parking fees or any combination thereof issued for any parking violation which are delinquent, unpaid, otherwise unsettled and uncontested, such vehicle may, by towing or otherwise, be removed for safekeeping by or under the direction of a police officer to a garage or other location, or such vehicle may be immobilized in such manner as to prevent its removal or operation except by such person as shall be authorized to do so by the police department.

(a) **PRIOR MAILING OF NOTICE** – Prior to scheduling any vehicle on a list for impoundment or immobilization, the police department shall cause to be mailed to the registered owner a list of all delinquent charges and statement warning that such vehicle shall be impounded or immobilized. Such notice shall be mailed at least fifteen (15) days prior to the placement of any vehicle on a list for impoundment or immobilization.

- (b) REQUIRED NOTICE OF REMOVAL – It shall be the duty of any police officer removing or immobilizing a vehicle, or under whose direction such a vehicle is removed or immobilized, to inform, as soon as practicable within twenty-four (24) hours, the owner of the removed or immobilized vehicle of the nature and circumstances of the prior unsettled parking violation notices for which, or on account of which, such vehicle was removed or immobilized. Such notice shall additionally state that if the owner fails to reclaim such vehicle within sixty (60) days from the date of mailing, title to such vehicle shall rest in the Town of Westport and such vehicle will be sold at public auction.
- (c) REPOSSESSION TIME PERIOD – The owner of an immobilized vehicle, or other duly authorized person, shall be allowed at least twenty-four (24) hours from the time of immobilization to repossess or secure the release of the vehicle following which such vehicle may be removed to a store area for safekeeping under the direction of a police officer.
- (d) CRITERIA FOR REPOSSESSION – Before the owner or person in charge of any vehicle removed or immobilized as above provided shall be allowed to repossess or to secure the release of said vehicle, the owner or agent shall pay the following: the cost of towing, or if immobilized, a fee of thirty five (35) dollars; plus the cost of storage for each day, or portion of a day that such a vehicle is so stored in excess of the first twenty-four(24) hours; plus all sums legally due for any Town of Westport parking citations issued and outstanding against such vehicle; or in lieu of the above, a bond with a surety company authorized to do business in this state in an amount sufficient to cover the above charges. No such vehicle shall be released until the owner or agent has established identity and right to possession and has signed a proper receipt therefore.
- (e) UNAUTHORIZED REMOVAL – Any person who, after having had their vehicle towed or immobilized, shall remove such vehicle without complying with Section 8(d) shall, in addition to the charges provided for in said section, be liable for any damage done to the immobilization device or mechanism and be subject to a fine of not more than one hundred (100.00) dollars.

9. The Railroad Parking Director is authorized to suspend the sale of permits for parking at the Westport railroad station parking lots if conditions warrant such action.

10. Sale of permit to applicant in no way guarantees that person a place to park on any specific day.

11. The Town of Westport cannot carry insurance to cover property of permittee who by accepting the permit assumes all risk of damage or loss of property and agrees to hold the Town of Westport harmless from any or all claims of such injury.

## 12. EXTENDED PARKING REGULATIONS

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to leave any vehicle parked in a space on a continuous basis for more than seven (7) days unless prior written permission is obtained from the Railroad Parking Department.

- (b) Any vehicle parked continuously in a space for more than eight (8) days without prior written permission from the Railroad Parking Department shall be deemed abandoned and may be towed in accordance with the provisions of section 14.150 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

- 13. The submission of an application for a Railroad Parking permit shall signify consent of the applicant to each and every term of these regulations.